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injected; if the antitoxin is to neutralize an endotoxin, then the antigen consists of killed bacteria, and occasionally, both methods are combined.

As a rule the substance used as antigen is a toxin, the soluble poison produced by the bacteria and obtained by growing them in a liquid culture medium from which the bacteria are filtered off so that the liquid contains merely toxin in solution.

Following the injection, in response to the stimulation of the immune mechanism, as previously outlined, the blood of the horse contains free antitoxin. The injections are continued, each one containing a little more toxin, until, finally, the animal is able to withstand many times the ordinarily fatal dose of toxin. He is then bled and the serum so obtained constitutes the antitoxin. This is then tested for strength which is expressed in antitoxic *units*. A unit of antitoxin is that amount which will neutralize one hundred times the amount of toxin required to kill a 250 gram guinea pig.

All antitoxins are produced in a similar manner except that the character of the antigen used varies somewhat with the type of the organism in question.

Antitoxins constitute one of our most potent weapons in the treatment and prevention of disease, and are utilized in diphtheria, tetanus and numerous other conditions.

In the concluding paper of this series the practical application of immunological principles to the diagnosis of diseases will be described.

A PATIENT'S IMPRESSION OF A NURSE

BY MAY THOMAS RICHARDS

St. Luke's Hospital, St. Louis, Mo.

I had just regained consciousness and was vainly trying to distinguish various objects about me. Some one had just thrust a bolt of gauze down my throat and had twisted it about and then withdrawn it,—or so it seemed to me. The nurse who stood over me seemed immense, yet so far away.

"Water," I gasped. My throat was parched. Something cool and moist touched my lips, but it was not water, only a moist piece of gauze. Then Miss G., for that was the nurse's name, explained why she refused to give me water. Repeatedly I begged for it, and repeatedly she kindly but firmly refused.

Miss G. was far from being good to look upon, and I decided then and there to dislike her, but her sweetness, the gentleness and firmness of her touch, her soft smooth voice and the quiet manner

in which she moved and acted were so pleasing and soothing to me, that I began to have to admit that I liked her.

Later in the evening she removed all the unnecessary blankets and straightened the sheets. I had been weak, hot, and restless. The alcohol bath and the powder she had given me made me feel rested. She patted my pillows into a more comfortable position and in a short time I fell into a peaceful sleep.

At intervals during the night I would waken, and each time I found her ready to make me more comfortable. She talked little and did everything so quietly and gently that she seemed to belong where she was. Everything she did was done perfectly. None of her movements were superfluous; each accomplished a definite task.

Each meal she fixed for me was a joy. I never knew what she would bring. Everything was good and appetizing and so tastefully arranged. She read to me often, and sad to say, her sweet voice often lulled me to sleep.

It was not many weeks until I was strong enough to be up and about. She had just tucked me into bed one night when she said, "Well, tomorrow you will be well enough to get along without me, so I'll be leaving then. Sleep well tonight, for I'll have a little surprise for you in the morning.

Leaving!! I had never thought of that. What would I do without her cheerful, gloom-dispersing person about, who would take her place in my life? She hardly seemed like a nurse, she was so very human, so entertaining,—cheerful always, so attentive, and loved and admired by all. She had a few faults, but her virtues were so many and so evident that one could ignore the few failings. I dreaded to have the morning come; but childlike I thought of the surprise she had in store for me, and fell asleep.

THE AMERICAN NURSE AND THE PRE-SCHOOL CHILD

BY HARRIET L. LEETE, R.N.

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"The race marches forward on the feet of little children."

We are placing a heavy burden on the shoulders of our littlest ones, and the least we can do is to make the road as straight and as clear of all obstacles as possible.

The pendulum swinging back and forth occasionally is stopped, and its indicator points to some one phase of child life requiring